



Edited By GR Special Projects & SSI Advocacy Staff

## Special Points of Interest:

Physical Health Assessment Redesign Reminders

AID for MFG Children

## Inside This Issue:

- ◆ Ancillary And Transportation 1
- ◆ Coming Soon... MFG Children Call-Out (On page one.) 1
- ◆ Some Timely GR Reminders 2
- ◆ The Credits 2



# GENERAL RELIEF PROGRAM SECTIONS NEWSLETTER

PUBLISHED BY GR SPECIAL PROJECTS & SSI ADVOCACY

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2014

## HEALTH CARE REFORM



### Physical Health Assessment Redesign Reminders:

By Valeska Sansores, GR Program

Due to the arrival of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in January 2014, General Relief (GR) applicants/participants are now required to see their own Health Care Provider. The GR Physical Health Assessment procedures have changed effective August 1, 2014, with the termination of the Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) contracts on July 31, 2014. All GR district offices have received training on the new procedures and changes; however, GR Program staff would like to remind staff of the following: At GR Intake, the GR Worker will no longer ask "Can you work?" but rather "Do you think your health prevents you from working full-time in a sedentary type job?"

A new Physical Health Assessment form (ABP 1676-1) has been released and is to be used at all GR district offices. The ABP 1676 and ABP 1676-P became obsolete effective August 1, 2014, and should not be used. The Appointment Scheduler Representative (ASR) is to make the Physical Health Assessment appointment with the Department of Health Services (DHS), only if the applicant/participant is empaneled to DHS. In addition, the ASR is to make the Physical Health Assessment appointment with the FQHC, if the applicant/participant is pending Medi-Cal, pending plan selection, or does not have Medi-Cal. The ASR should **not** be making appointments for applicants/participants that are already empaneled to the FQHCs or who have other Health Care providers. Those participants will schedule their own appointments.

The Case-Carrying Eligibility Workers (EW) must ensure, via the MOPI screen, which Health Care provider is assigned to the GR applicant/participant. EWs should assist participants with filling out the Release of Information form. In addition, EWs must complete the upper right corner of a ABP 1676-1 form with participant and medical appointment information prior to giving out the verification form. The automation of the ABP 1676-1 is targeted for December 2015.

### AID FOR MAXIMUM FAMILY GRANT CHILDREN

By Amanda Murtishaw

GR is now aiding Maximum Family Grant (MFG) children in a zero grant CalWORKs case. The CalWORKs household must meet the following criteria:

- If the CalWORKs case is open, there must be a zero CalWORKs grant.
- If the CalWORKs case is terminated, the CalWORKs grant was zero at the time aid was terminated, or it was the last month the timed-out parent received a grant.
- The parent must not be sanctioned for any CalWORKs program requirements resulting in a zero CalWORKs grant.

GR aid is to be considered an interim assistance to support the CalWORKs' MFG child during the family's 24 consecutive months without CalWORKs cash aid. Once the family completes the 24 consecutive months without a CalWORKs grant, the child's MFG status expires and becomes eligible to CalWORKs and GR aid is terminated. GR Program staff is releasing a Call-Out with details soon.



## DID YOU ENJOY THIS YEAR'S AVR ??



### TRANSPORTATION ISSUANCE

By Shawn Amiel, GR Program

GR staff may issue ancillaries to Supplemental Security Income and Medi-Cal Advocacy Program (SSIMAP) participants when needed to prepare for Supplemental Security Income (SSI)-related appointments or to address other SSI-related issues. SSIMAP Advocates may request transportation allowances any time an applicant/participant requests a transportation allowance to meet GR requirements regarding SSIMAP. Transportation allowances are is-

sued by either bus token(s) or a bus pass allowance. Ongoing allowances may be issued via Electronic Benefit Transfer. Please see below for the applicable GR transportation policy and new Metro rates.

#### METRO PRICE CHANGES EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 15, 2014

Type	Old Price	New Price
One-Ride Base Fare (cash) & One-way Trip	\$1.50	\$1.75
Bus Tokens	\$1.50	\$1.75
One-Day Pass	\$5.00	\$7.00
Seven-Day Pass	\$20.00	\$25.00
Thirty-Day Pass	\$75.00	\$100.00
EZ Transit Pass (new rate effective 10/01/14)		

For other fares and discount rates visit [www.metro.net/riding/new-fares-sept/](http://www.metro.net/riding/new-fares-sept/).

For more information regarding ancillaries and transportation issuances, please refer to Administrative Directive No. 4941, "Issuance of Ancillary Payments for General Relief Supplemental Security Income and Medi-Cal Advocacy Program Participants" (released May 11, 2011).

## The year 2014 is passing quickly !!!

### General Reminder/Announcements!!!

By Ken Krantz, GR Program



- Always call the Emergency Vendor Hotel or Shelter before you send the participant to ensure they have a room and remind them to check in early.
- Call vendor when canceling reservation.
- If a participant says they are not a veteran, ask if they ever served in a branch of the armed forces - and list them!
- Remember all district staff, are to watch for potential Need Special Assistance (NSAs) and notify your supervisor if you identify a potential NSA applicant/participant.
- First day of Autumn is September 23 this year. We welcome the cooler shorter days and hopefully the rain storms!

## THE GENERAL RELIEF PROGRAM HOPES THAT YOU HAVE A WONDERFUL DAY

Your feedback is important and your contributions to the GR Programs Sections' Newsletter are welcomed. Your comments, recommendations, and Newsletter article ideas can be discussed with the GR Special Projects and SSI Advocacy Section at (562) 908-6869.

We look forward to hearing from you!!

General Relief Programs Sections Newsletter  
General Relief & CalFresh Program Division  
12820 Crossroads Parkway South  
City of Industry, CA 91746

Tel: 562-908-6869

Fax: 562-695-0423

